

Remarks

In the Office Action, a restriction requirement was set forth by the Examiner in view of the claims of the present application (i.e., Claims 1-69), as follows:

- Group I (Claims 1-17 and 44-69) – drawn to optimizing trades among various parties to create optimal portfolios for each respective party, classified in class 705, subclass 37.
- Group II (Claims 18-43) – drawn to the details of reducing the likelihood of trades between two or more affiliated parties, classified in class 705, subclass 37.


In response to the restriction requirement, applicants elect without traverse the claims of Group I for the present application. Claims 18-69 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Applicants reserve the option, however, to introduce any portion of a canceled claim or claims in a future amendment or application filing.

New Claims 70-93 have been added to the present application. It can be seen that each of these new claims either directly or indirectly depends from Claim 1, which is part of the elected Group I claim set.

Summary

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the claims pending in the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative by telephone to discuss any issues with the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael D. Lazzara
Reg. No. 41,142
Attorney for Applicants

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART NICHOLSON GRAHAM LLP
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222-2312

Telephone: (412) 355-8994
Fax: (412) 355-6501
E-Mail: mlazzara@klng.com

Customer No. 26285